



# CITIZEN REGISTER

... a newsletter from the Consular Section for American citizens and wardens

## AMERICAN CITIZENS: LET US KNOW YOU'RE HERE!

### Consular Section

27 Nablus Road  
P.O. Box 290  
91002 Jerusalem  
Phone: 2-622-7200

### American Citizen Services

[jerusalemacs@state.gov](mailto:jerusalemacs@state.gov)  
Fax: 2-627-2233

### Visa

Fax: 2-628-5455  
For Immigrant Visa  
inquiries:  
[jerusalemIV@state.gov](mailto:jerusalemIV@state.gov)

### For Nonimmigrant Visa Inquiries:

[jerusalemvisa@state.gov](mailto:jerusalemvisa@state.gov)

### Emergencies

If you need emergency assistance after hours please call:  
Tel. (2) 622-7250

Note: This number is reserved for critical emergencies only. Routine ACS or Visa inquiries should be made during normal consular business hours to Tel. (2) 622-7200, Monday—Friday 8:00 AM—4:30 PM.

If you wish to unsubscribe from this newsletter, please email [jerusalemacs@state.gov](mailto:jerusalemacs@state.gov). You will still receive warden notices if you unsubscribe from the newsletter.

### Why register?

#### If we don't know that you're here or where you are, we can't assist you.

As the recent tsunamis in South Asia have reminded everyone, it is impossible to predict the time, place or scope of a disaster. Registration at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate makes your presence and location known if a consular officer needs to contact you in an emergency. If a disaster strikes, American consular officers can assist in evacuating American citizens. Registration is particularly important if you are living in Jerusalem or the West Bank on a permanent basis or are visiting here for one month or longer.

#### Registration is now faster and easier

The State Department has recently introduced an Internet based registration system that makes registering quick and convenient. Go to the State Department's travel registration website, <https://travelregistration.state.gov>, and follow the instructions. Registration can be completed in a matter of minutes. Even if you have previously registered with the Consulate, we encourage you to register again on-line to ensure our information on your whereabouts

is complete and up-to-date. When you register on-line, the data you provide is secured and can be accessed only by cleared personnel.

#### If you don't have Internet access...

If you do not have access to the Internet, please register either in person at the Consulate at 27 Nablus Road or by fax or by e-mail. If you come in person to the Consulate, please bring your original U.S. passport. If registering by fax, please send a copy of the passport page that shows the number of your passport. Our fax number is 02-627-2233. If registering by e-mail, please include your U.S. passport number, as well as the date and place of issuance, your date and place of birth, your contact information and emergency contact information, and the duration of your stay in our district. You can register by sending an e-mail to this address: [jerusalemACS@state.gov](mailto:jerusalemACS@state.gov).

#### Protecting your right to privacy

The information you provide when you register is subject to the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, and may not be disclosed by the Department of State to a third party unless you have consented in writing or the disclosure is otherwise authorized by the Privacy Act.

## Inside this issue:

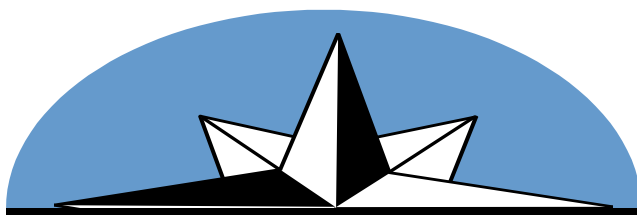
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## Tax Day Coming, but Relax...

### Extensions of Time to File Your Tax Return

American citizens living overseas are eligible for automatic filing extensions. Better yet, you get more time to file the extension request. There are three choices for filing Form 4868 (PDF), Application For Automatic Extension of Time To File U.S. Individual Tax Return, electronically. If you file your Form 4868 electronically, you will receive an acknowledgement or confirmation number for your records and you do not need to send in Form 4868. If you were serving in a combat zone or in a contingency operation, refer to Topic 301 at the IRS website ([www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)) for more information about extensions.

The 4868 Telefile system (1-888-796-1074) is a telephone automated system that accepts extension requests with or without a balance due payment. You can use Form 4868 TeleFile between February 13th and April 15th (**between February 13th and June 15th if you live and work or are serving in the military in a foreign country**) to file your extension by phone. For your convenience, you can authorize an electronic funds withdrawal from your checking or savings account. If you choose this option, you will be



#### ACS Section Public Hours

**Monday – Friday: 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.**

**Closed:** Last Friday of the month and on U.S. and local holidays.

**Hint:** Consider avoiding Monday and the first day after a holiday since these days are usually our busiest.

**Reminder:** Strollers are not permitted inside the Consulate, and it is not possible to leave them outside unattended.



#### Visa Section Public Hours

##### Nonimmigrant (Visitor) Visas

**Monday – Friday: 12:30 – 2:30 p.m.**

**Appointment required**

##### Immigrant Visas

**Monday – Friday: 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.**

**By appointment only**

##### Immigrant Visa Petitions

**Tuesday: 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.**

**No appointment necessary**

**The Visa Section is closed on the last Friday of each month as well as on U.S. and local holidays.**

**We suggest making an appointment for visa interviews well in advance of your travel departure to allow for any possible delays.**

**Reminder:** Strollers are not permitted inside the Consulate, and it is not possible to leave them outside unattended.

## ...You Still Have Time to File!

asked to provide the Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) from last year's tax return for taxpayer verification. You can call early and schedule your payment to be withdrawn any time up to April 15, 2004 (**June 15th if you reside in a foreign country**). You will receive a confirmation number at the end of the call for your records. If you prefer, you can request your extension by phone and mail your check in separately.

You can refer to your tax software or tax professional for ways to file electronically using e-file services. If you wish to make a payment using the electronic funds withdrawal option, be sure to have a copy of last year's tax return. You will be asked to provide the Adjusted Gross Income from the return for taxpayer verification.

You can generally get an extension if you pay part or all of your estimate of income tax due by credit card. You may pay by phone or Internet through one of the service providers listed on Form 4868. Each service provider will charge a convenience fee based on the amount of the tax payment. At the completion of the transaction, you will receive a confirmation number for your records.

# American Citizen Services News

TO AMERICAN CITIZENS IN JERUSALEM AND THE WEST BANK—



## WE'D LIKE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS!

U.S. Consulate General Jerusalem is updating its list of e-mail addresses for American citizens living in this consular district. The Consulate General uses e-mail to send security alerts and recommended precautions to American citizens who live or are visiting here. We also use e-mail to communicate information on other matters of interest to American citizens, such as voting, and any changes in the procedure for obtaining a passport or registering the birth of a child. We also distribute this newsletter, the *Citizen Register*, by e-mail to American citizens on our list.

While no one is required to provide us with an e-mail address, we believe that including you in our e-mail list will enable the Consulate General to better serve you. We will not share your address with anyone else.

The last page of this newsletter is a form you can use to provide your e-mail address. Simply fill out the form and either leave it at the Consulate fax it to us at 02 627-2233 or send it as an e-mail attachment to our e-mail address, [jerusalemacs@state.gov](mailto:jerusalemacs@state.gov). Please let us know when you move back to the U.S. or, if for any other reason, you no longer wish to receive messages from us, and we will delete you from the list.

## American Citizen Services News

### State Department Announces Change in Passport Application Procedures

#### **When Applying for a Passport for a Minor Child, The Parental Consent Form Must Now be Notarized!**

The Department of State has amended the rule requiring the consent of both parents to obtain a passport for a minor child. In the past, when only one parent appeared at the Consulate to apply for a minor's passport, we required a written statement of consent from the other parent. On November 1, 2004, a new regulation took effect requiring that such consent statements be notarized. The Consulate still strongly prefers that both parents appear in person to sign the application. We will, however, accept a statement of consent from the parent who does not appear, as long as it is notarized.

This change was made because some parents have provided forged letters of consent, purporting to be from an applying parent, to U.S. consulates and embassies in connection with a passport application. Such forged documents are presented to facilitate the abduction of a child. Additional safeguards have been deemed necessary to prevent child abductions or other interference with the non-applying parent's rights. The Consulate now requires that a consent statement give the non-appearing parent's unequivocal and unconditional consent to the issuance of the passport, and further requires that this statement be notarized before a competent U.S. or foreign notary, or before a notary at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate abroad.

Please refer to the Consulate website, <http://jerusalem.usconsulate.gov>, for further information on applying for passports for children, including the forms and supporting documentation required. The parental consent form, DS 3053, as well as all other forms needed to apply for a U.S. passport, can be found and downloaded at the following website: <http://travel.state.gov>; click on Passports at the top of that page; then look for the list of forms on the left side of the Passports page. If you're a parent with a minor child and would like further information on the consent requirement, please send an email to [jerusalemacs@state.gov](mailto:jerusalemacs@state.gov), or to [ASKPRI@state.gov](mailto:ASKPRI@state.gov).

## WORLDWIDE CAUTION

September 10, 2004

### ACS Warden Message

This Public Announcement is being updated to remind U.S. citizens of the continuing threat of terrorist actions and anti-American violence against U.S. citizens and interests overseas. This supersedes the Worldwide Caution dated April 29, 2004, and expires on March 10, 2005.

The Department of State is deeply concerned about the continued threat of terrorist attacks against U.S. citizens and interests abroad, as well as the potential for demonstrations and violent actions against U.S. citizens and interests overseas. U.S. citizens are reminded that demonstrations and rioting can occur at any time. In reaction to the execution of hostages in Iraq, there have been demonstrations and associated violence in the hostages' country of origin. While Americans are generally not the targets in such incidents, U.S. citizens could be caught up in the violence. U.S. citizens are reminded to maintain a high level of vigilance and to take appropriate steps to increase their security awareness.

The Department of State remains concerned by indications that al-Qaida and affiliated groups continue to prepare to strike U.S. interests abroad. Al-Qaida and its associated organizations have struck in Europe, Asia and the Middle East. Future al-Qaida attacks could possibly involve non-conventional weapons such as chemical or biological agents as well as conventional weapons of terror, to include explosive devices.

Terrorist actions may include, but are not limited to, suicide operations, assassinations, hijackings, bombings or kidnappings. These may involve aviation and other transportation and maritime interests. Terrorists do not distinguish between official and civilian targets. These may include facilities where U.S. citizens and other foreigners congregate or visit, including residential areas, business offices, clubs, restaurants, places of worship, schools, hotels and public areas. U.S. citizens are encouraged to maintain a high level of vigilance and to take appropriate steps to increase their security awareness.

U.S. Government facilities worldwide remain at a heightened state of alert. These facilities may temporarily close or suspend public services from time to time to assess their security posture. In those instances, U.S. embassies and consulates will make every effort to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens. Americans abroad are urged to monitor the local news and maintain contact with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

As the Department continues to develop information on any potential security threats to U.S. citizens overseas, it shares credible threat information through its consular information program documents, available on the Internet at <http://travel.state.gov>. In addition to information on the Internet, travelers may obtain up-to-date information on security conditions by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the U.S. or outside the U.S. and Canada on a regular toll line at 1-317-472-2328.



## Middle East and North Africa Update

November 26, 2004

### ACS Warden Message

This Public Announcement is being updated to alert Americans to ongoing security concerns in the region following the death of Palestinian Authority (PA) Chairman Yasser Arafat. U.S. citizens are reminded to maintain a high level of vigilance and to take appropriate steps to increase their security awareness. This Public Announcement supersedes the Public Announcement issued on August 21, 2004, and expires May 10, 2005.

The recent death of PA Chairman Arafat has the potential to produce demonstrations and unrest throughout the region. In addition, the Department of State continues to warn of the possibility for violent actions against U.S. citizens and interests in the region. Anti-American violence could include possible terrorist actions against aviation, ground transportation and maritime interests, specifically in the Middle East, including the Red Sea, Persian Gulf, the Arabian Peninsula and North Africa.

The Department is concerned that extremists may be planning to carry out attacks against Westerners and oil workers in the Gulf region. Recent armed attacks targeting foreign nationals in Saudi Arabia that resulted in many deaths and injuries, including U.S. citizens, appear to have been preceded by extensive surveillance. Extremists may be surveilling Westerners, particularly at hotels and those using rental cars. Potential targets may include U.S. contractors.

Credible information has indicated terrorist groups seek to continue attacks against U.S. interests in the Middle East. Terrorist actions may include additional suicide operations, bombings, hijackings, kidnappings and targeted attacks resulting in death. While conventional weapons such as explosive devices are a more immediate threat in many areas, use of non-conventional weapons, including chemical or biological agents, must be considered a possible threat. Terrorists do not distinguish between official and civilian targets. Increased security at official U.S. facilities has led terrorists and their sympathizers to seek softer targets such as public transportation, residential areas, and public areas where people congregate including restaurants, hotels, clubs, and shopping areas.

On occasion, the travel of official personnel at embassies and consulates around the world is restricted because of security concerns, and these posts may recommend that private U.S. citizens avoid the same areas if at all possible. Services to U.S. citizens in countries abroad may be affected if employees' movements are restricted. If this happens, U.S. embassies and consulates will make every effort to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens. In case office hours are reduced, U.S. citizens in need of emergency assistance should telephone the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate before visiting in person.

In addition, U.S. citizens planning to travel to the Middle East or North Africa should consult the Department of State's country-specific Public Announcements, Travel Warnings, Consular Information Sheets, the Worldwide Caution Public Announcement and other information, available on the Consular Affairs Internet website at <http://travel.state.gov>. Up-to-date information on security conditions can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 in the U.S. and for callers outside the U.S. and Canada a regular toll line at 1-317-472-2328.

## Israel, the West Bank and Gaza - Travel Warning

November 11, 2004

The U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv and the American Consulate General in Jerusalem are jointly issuing this Security Alert to all American citizens in Israel, the West Bank, and Gaza.

The recent demise of Yasser Arafat may create a climate ripe for unstable conditions. During the 40-day traditional period of mourning, large crowds may gather for prayers on the Haram al Sharif in the Old City of Jerusalem as well as at local mosques throughout Israel, the West Bank, and Gaza. There is already an increase in the numbers of worshippers at these sites due to the month of Ramadan.

Because of the significance of this event, the possibility also exists for mass demonstrations and other expressions of unrest. Over the weeks following this event, as the Palestinian Authority seeks to fill the void left by Mr. Arafat's demise, the possibility of ongoing demonstrations and unrest will continue to exist.

As always, but particularly during this period, U.S. citizens are urged to avoid large crowds, especially in the area in and around the Haram al Sharif and other mosques. In addition, American citizens are cautioned to be alert to the possibility of heightened threats in the area of restaurants, businesses, and other places associated with U.S. interests and/or located near U.S. official buildings such as the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv and the American Consulate General in Jerusalem.

The U.S. Department of State has already noted conditions of increasing lawlessness in the northern region of the West Bank, and wishes to re-emphasize the cautions contained in the current travel warning for Israel, the West Bank, and Gaza, the Middle East and North Africa Public Announcement and the Worldwide Caution Public Announcement, all of which may be found at <http://travel.state.gov>.

## **E-Mail Address for U.S. Consulate General Jerusalem American Citizen E-mail List**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail address:** \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

**If you would prefer to receive information by fax, please provide your fax #:**

\_\_\_\_\_

If you are a long-term resident of Jerusalem or the West Bank, or if you're a temporary resident who will be here one year or more, please check here: \_\_\_\_\_

Please bring the completed form to the Consulate at 27 Nablus Road, Jerusalem; send by fax to 02 627-2233; or send by e-mail to [jerusalemacs@state.gov](mailto:jerusalemacs@state.gov).